DEC 2:0 2006 W

THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : HIDEYO OSANAI ET AL. Confirmation No.: 6453

Serial No. : 10/747,837

Filed: December 29, 2003

TC/A.U. : 2841

Examiner : H.C. Nguyen

Docket No. : 03-745 Customer No.: 34704

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.116

Sir:

In response to the Office action dated August 9, 2006, having a shortened statutory period for response set to expire November 9, 2006, having been extended for two months so as to expire on January 9, 2006, please amend the above-identified application as follows.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 3 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on Page 5 of this paper.